**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. 1. A network management system, comprising:
2. a network;
3. a plurality of telephony devices coupled to said network; and
4. a server, said server including an auto-discovery unit configured
5. to make a determination of the presence of configurable components
6. associated with said plurality of telephony devices on said network by
7. communicating with said telephony devices, said server further
8. configured to provide a graphical user interface (GUI) based network
9. map of said configurable components, wherein said server is further
10. configured to make a determination of configuration information to
11. others of said configurable components.

2. 1. A network management system according to Claim 1, said auto-
2. discovery unit configured to automatically make said determination of
3. said presence of said configurable components and propagate said
4. configuration information at predetermined intervals.

3. 1. A network management system according to Claim 2, wherein
2. said auto-discovery unit is accessible from a device on said network.

*Could be a PC*

4. 1. A network management system according to Claim 1, said
2. plurality of telephony devices including responder units, said responder
3. units configured to provide said configuration information to said auto-
4. discovery unit and to receive updated configuration information to said
5. auto-discovery unit and to receive updated configuration information
6. from said auto-discovery unit.

5. 1. A network management system according to Claim 4, said
2. responder units comprising HTTP (hypertext transfer protocol) servers.

1     6.     A network management system according to Claim 5, said
2     responder units comprising cgi-bin like programs.

1     7.     A network management system according to Claim 6, wherein
2     said responder units are configured to provide said configuration
3     information to said auto-discovery unit in XML format.

1     8.     A network management system according to Claim 2, wherein
2     said graphical user interface comprises a Java applet.

1     9.     A network management system according to Claim 2, wherein
2     said graphical user interface comprises a dynamic HTML page.

1     10.     A method for managing a network including a plurality of
2     telephony device, comprising:
3     automatically determining the presence of configurable
4     components associated with said plurality of telephony devices;
5     receiving configuration information from said plurality of
6     telephony devices;
7     automatically propagating said configuration information to
8     others of said plurality of telephony devices at predetermined intervals;
9     and
10     displaying a map of said configurable components.

1     11.     A method according to Claim 10, wherein said determining the
2     presence of said configurable components comprises using
3     ping.

1     12.     A method according to Claim 10, wherein said receiving
2     configuration information comprises receiving said configuration
3     information in HTTP format.

1      13.    A method according to Claim 10, wherein said displaying a map

2              comprises providing a graphical user interface for entering

3              configuration information.


1      14.    A method according to Claim 13, wherein providing said

2    graphical user interface comprises providing an HTML page.